

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently amended)** A multi-functional combination ~~electronic~~ communication and medical diagnostic device apparatus, comprising:
a ~~first~~ component for generating vibration, the component being adapted to generate vibration in response to a remote wireless signal when the device is operated as one or more of a cellular phone, pager, beeper, and other portable electronic communication device operative to transmit and/or receive data and/or voice signals, the component being further adapted to generate vibration for use for transmitting or receiving a remote electronic communication signal; and
a ~~second component for generating vibration to be used in a medical diagnosis in response to a signal generated by the device~~[[;]]
wherein ~~the second component generates vibration independently from the electronic communication signal received or transmitted by the first component.~~
2. **(Canceled)**
3. **(Canceled)**
4. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 1[[3]], wherein the device ~~÷ a) the apparatus~~ functions as a probe for detecting neuropathy in a subject.
5. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 1, wherein the ~~÷ a) said second component~~ generates vibration of a fixed magnitude.
6. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 1, wherein the ~~÷ a) said second component~~ generates a plurality of sets of vibration each of a fixed magnitude.
7. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 1, wherein the ~~÷ a) said second component~~ generates vibration of a variable magnitude.
8. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 7, wherein [[: a)]] the magnitude is variable in a linear, curvilinear, or step-like manner.
9. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 1, wherein the ~~÷ a) said second component~~ generates vibration at a fixed frequency.

10. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 1, wherein the ~~a) said second~~ component generates a plurality of sets of vibration each at a fixed frequency.

11. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 1, wherein the ~~a) said second~~ component generates vibration at a variable frequency.

12. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 4, wherein ~~[[: a)]]~~ the probe can be used to determine a vibration perception threshold, a vibration disappearance threshold, or a vibration threshold, in a subject to detect neuropathy.

13. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 12, further comprising ~~[[: a)]]~~ audio or visual display to indicate one or more of vibration perception threshold, vibration disappearance threshold, and vibration threshold.

14. **(Currently amended)** A multi-functional combination ~~combination~~ electronic communication and medical diagnostic device apparatus, comprising:

~~[[a)]]~~ a component device for generating vibration in first and second modes;
and

~~[[b)]]~~ a selector for selecting one of said first and second modes for utilizing in an electronic communication and the other of said first and second modes for utilizing in a medical diagnosis;

wherein in one of said first and second modes the device functions as one or more of a cellular phone, pager, beeper, and other portable electronic device operative to transmit and/or receive data and/or voice signals; and

wherein in the other of said first and second modes, the device operates as a probe for detecting neuropathy in a subject.

15. **(Canceled)**

16. **(Canceled)**

17. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 14 ~~[[16]]~~, wherein ~~[[: a)]]~~ said device in said other of said first and second modes generates vibration of a fixed magnitude.

18. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 17, wherein ~~[[: a)]]~~ said device in said other of said first and second modes generates a plurality of sets of vibrations each of a fixed magnitude.

19. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 14[[16]], wherein[: a)] said device in said other of said first and second modes generates vibration of a variable magnitude.

20. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 19, wherein[: a)] the magnitude varies in a linear, curvilinear, or step-like[.] manner.

21. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 14[[16]], wherein[: a)] said device in said other of said first and second modes generates vibration at a fixed frequency.

22. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 14[[16]], wherein[: a)] said device in said other of said first and second modes generates a plurality of sets of vibration each at a fixed frequency.

23. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 14[[16]], wherein[: a)] said device in said other of said first and second modes generates vibration at a variable frequency.

24. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 14[[16]], wherein[: a)] the probe can be used to determine a vibration perception threshold, a vibration disappearance threshold, or a vibration threshold, in a subject to detect neuropathy.

25. **(Currently amended)** The device apparatus of claim 14[[16]], further comprising: a) audio or visual display to indicate one or more of vibration perception threshold, vibration disappearance threshold, and vibration threshold.

26. **(Currently amended)** An electronic communication device apparatus for detecting neuropathy in a subject, comprising:

a component for generating vibration of a fixed or variable magnitude;

wherein when the device apparatus is applied to a subject, threshold for the perception or disappearance of vibration can be determined as a measure of nerve function to detect neuropathy; and

wherein the device apparatus further functions as one or more of a pager, beeper, or cellular phone, and other portable electronic device operative to transmit and/or receive data and/or voice signals.

27. **(Canceled)**

28. **(Currently amended)** A medical diagnosis method, comprising:

[[a]] providing a multi-functional combination ~~electronic communication and medical diagnostic device apparatus~~, the device apparatus comprising:

—— i) ~~a first component for transmitting or receiving a remote electronic communication signal; and~~

—— ii) ~~a second a component for generating vibration to be used in a medical diagnosis; the component being adapted to generate vibration in response to a remote wireless signal when the device is operated as one or more of a cellular phone, pager, beeper, and other portable electronic communication device operative to transmit and/or receive data and/or voice signals, the component being further adapted to generate vibration for use in a medical diagnosis in response to a signal generated by the device wherein the second component generates vibration independently from the electronic communication signal received or transmitted by the first component;~~

selecting a mode of vibration to be used in medical diagnosis;

[[b]] generating vibration;

and applying the device apparatus to a subject; and

[[c]] diagnosing a medical condition based on detection or non-detection of vibration by the subject.

29. **(Canceled)**

30. **(Original)** The method of claim 28, further comprising: determining a threshold for the subject's ability to detect vibration by generating a predetermined magnitude or frequency.

31. **(Original)** The method of claim 30, wherein: the threshold is graded low if the subject detects vibration, and high if the subject cannot detect vibration.

32. **(Original)** The method of claim 28, further comprising: determining a vibration perception threshold for the subject's ability to detect vibration by increasing the magnitude or frequency of vibration.

33. **(Original)** The method of claim 32, wherein: the vibration perception threshold is graded low, medium, or high when compared to a preset standard thereby indicating the severity of the medical condition.

34. **(Original)** The method of claim 28, further comprising: determining a vibration disappearance threshold for the subject's ability to no longer detect vibration by decreasing the magnitude or frequency of vibration.

35. **(Original)** The method of claim 34, wherein: the vibration disappearance threshold is graded low, medium, or high when compared to a preset standard thereby indicating the severity of the medical condition.

36. **(Original)** The method of claim 28, wherein: the medical condition comprises neuropathy.

37. **(Original)** The method of claim 36, wherein: the step b) comprises generating vibration of a predetermined magnitude or frequency equal to about 95th-97th percentiles in a normal population.

38. **(Original)** The method of claim 37, wherein: detection of vibration by the subject indicates an absence of neuropathy, and non-detection indicates a presence of neuropathy.

39. **(Original)** The method of claim 30, wherein: the magnitude or frequency is fixed.

40. **(Original)** The method of claim 30, wherein: the magnitude or frequency is variable in a linear, curvilinear, or step-like manner.

41. **(Original)** The method of claim 36, wherein: the device apparatus is applied to an extremity of the subject.

42. **(Currently amended)** A method of detecting neuropathy in a subject, comprising:

[[a]] providing a multi-functional combination ~~combination~~ electronic communication and medical diagnostic device apparatus, the device apparatus comprising:

—— i) a first component for transmitting or receiving a remote electronic communication signal; and

—— ii) a second a component for generating vibration ~~to be used in a medical diagnosis~~, the component being adapted to generate vibration in response to a remote wireless signal when the device is operated as one or more of a cellular phone, pager, beeper, and other portable electronic communication device operative to transmit and/or receive data and/or voice signals, the component being further adapted to generate vibration for use in a

medical diagnosis in response to a signal generated by the device ~~wherein the second component generates vibration independently from the electronic communication signal received or transmitted by the first component;~~

selecting a mode of vibration to be used in detecting neuropathy;

[[b)]] generating vibration of a predetermined magnitude or frequency as a threshold stimulus and applying the device apparatus to a subject; and

[[c)]] allowing the subject to indicate whether or not vibration can be detected;

[[d)]] wherein the absence or presence of neuropathy is indicated by the subject's ability to detect or not detect the vibration.

43. **(Canceled)**

44. **(Original)** The method of claim 42, wherein: the threshold stimulus is equal to about 95th -97th percentiles in a normal population.

45. **(Original)** The method of claim 42, wherein: the step b) comprises generating vibration of a fixed magnitude or frequency.

46. **(Original)** The method of claim 42, wherein: the step b) comprises generating vibration of a variable magnitude or frequency.

47. **(Original)** The method of claim 46, further comprising: determining a vibration perception threshold for the subject's ability to detect vibration by increasing the magnitude or frequency of vibration.

48. **(Original)** The method of claim 47, wherein: the vibration perception threshold is graded low, medium, or high when compared to a preset standard thereby indicating the severity of neuropathy.

49. **(Original)** The method of claim 46, further comprising: determining a vibration disappearance threshold for the subject's ability to no longer detect vibration by decreasing the magnitude or frequency of vibration.

50. **(Original)** The method of claim 49, wherein: the vibration disappearance threshold is graded low, medium, or high when compared to a preset standard thereby indicating the severity of neuropathy.

51. **(Currently amended)** A medical diagnosis method, comprising:

[[a)]] providing a multi-functional combination ~~electronic communication and medical diagnostic device apparatus~~, the device apparatus comprising:

—— i) a first component for transmitting or receiving a remote electronic communication signal; and

—— ii) a second a component for generating vibration ~~to be used in a medical diagnosis, the component being adapted to generate vibration in response to a remote wireless signal when the device is operated as one or more of a cellular phone, pager, beeper, and other portable electronic communication device operative to transmit and/or receive data and/or voice signals, the component being further adapted to generate vibration for use in a medical diagnosis in response to a signal generated by the device wherein the second component generates vibration independently from the electronic communication signal received or transmitted by the first component;~~

selecting a mode of vibration for use in medical diagnosis;

[[b)]] applying the device apparatus to a subject and generating vibration; and

[[c)]] diagnosing a medical condition based on detection or non-detection of vibration by the subject.

52. (Canceled)

53. (Currently amended) A method of detecting neuropathy in a subject, comprising the steps of:

[[a)]] providing a multi-functional combination ~~electronic communication and medical diagnostic device apparatus~~, the device apparatus comprising:

—— i) a first component for transmitting or receiving a remote electronic communication signal; and

—— ii) a second a component for generating vibration ~~to be used in a medical diagnosis, the component being adapted to generate vibration in response to a remote wireless signal when the device is operated as one or more of a cellular phone, pager, beeper, and other portable electronic communication device operative to transmit and/or receive data and/or voice signals, the component being further adapted to generate vibration for use in a medical diagnosis in response to a signal generated by the device wherein the second component generates vibration independently from the electronic communication signal received or transmitted by the first component;~~

selecting a mode of vibration for use in detecting neuropathy;

[[b)]] applying the device apparatus to a subject and generating vibration of a predetermined magnitude or frequency as a threshold stimulus; and

[[c)]] allowing the subject to indicate whether or not vibration can be detected;

[[d)]] wherein the absence or presence of neuropathy is indicated by the subject's ability to detect or not detect the vibration.

54. (Canceled)